S.H.I.E.L.D.
12¢
IND.
9
FEB
NICK FURY, AGENT OF...
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
S.H.I.E.L.D.
MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP
JIM STERANKO

HERCULES WRIST BAND

INSTA-MAGIC POWER. Instantly gives your grip, wrist and arm more power by relieving the strain on the wrist and concentrating the muscles so you can do more effective work. Indispensable for athletes, boxers, farmers, mechanics or workmen. Genuine leather, attractively styled. Double strap, adjustable to any wrist. Wear any tension you wish. Quick, easy way to get more power. Get two for both arms.

☐ 6756. Double Strap. Each . . . 50¢ 2 for . . . 85¢

FAMOUS GERMAN MEDALS

Large, full size. Beautiful detail, authentic reproductions. Silver finish, colorful ribbon. All three for $6.95.

8949. Luftwaffe Nazi Pilot-Paratrooper $2.95
8950. Nazi SS Dwarfin (Canine) $3.50
8948. Iron Cross (Night) $2.50

Hear Police, Fire, Aircraft & World-Wide Short Wave on ANY Radio

● POLICE & FIRE CALLS. Accidents, riots, hold-ups, emergencies, police chase, bank robberies, stolen cars, road conditions. Know what's going on!

● AIRCRAFT MESSAGES. Eavesdrop on conversations between pilots & control tower, weather, dramatic flight during "impossible" weather or heavy traffic, etc.

● WORLD-WIDE SHORT WAVE. News, entertainment, propaganda, amateurs, war activities, etc.

Hear Dramatic Events While They Happen!

Amazing New Tuner-Converter $5.95

New solid-state circuit, short wave tuner-converters. Long range. Work with any standard radio. No connections necessary. All others can made. Nothing to build. Uses 9 volt transistor battery. Money back guarantee if not pleased. Indispensable at this remarkable low price. Any 2 for $10.75. 3 for $14.95.

Police & Fire Converter, Low band (30-50)	$5.95
Aircraft Tuner. (118-136 band)	$5.95
World Wide Tuner. 25, 31 & 41 Meters (7-12)	$5.95
9-volt Battery. 25¢ Each	

SECRET "BUG" MICROPHONE TRANSMITTER

Midget "bug" microphone for secret transmitting and pick-up. Overhear conversations in another room or building, do many magical & supernatural stunts. Use as detectaphone, phone pick-up, amplifier, telephone, etc. Complete except for battery & earphone or speaker. With directions.
No. 2988. "Bug" Only $1.00
No. 6892. Earphone $1.50 Each

Surprise Package

Special "loss leaders" for new customers. Most worth several times cost. LIMIT: One of each per order. Surprise items include new samples we receive from all over world, factory surplus bargains, special novelties, etc. Money back if not delighted.
2996 - 25¢ Pkg. 2997 - $1.00

MIDGET SPY CAMERA

Take secret or regular pictures. Size of pocket watch. Conceal in hand. Imported bargain. Precision made of fine lens, solid metal construction, chrome trim, rapid view finder, guaranteed mechanical, good pictures. Fine enlargements. 24 or. Takes ten pictures on 16 mm. roll. With leather over-ready case.
No. 4897. Camera & Case $1.35
No. 6888. Film 6 rolls $2.00

Hypnotic Whirling Coin

HYPNOTIZE FAST! Fascinating, pocket size invention. Hold plastic HYPNOCOIN in front of person. Then, by gently moving coin it whirls. It captures and holds their attention while they are hypnotized QUICKLY! Complete with simplified book that tells you what to say and do, how to command, how to re-hypnotize with snap of finger, amazing stunts.

No. 8103 Set . . 85¢

Slot Machine

Replica of Las Vegas machine. Take a Chance! Insert coin, pull "one arm bandit" and watch dials spin. BIG PAYOUT if you hit jackpot. Collect money for your "bank". Rugged metal, precision made, smooth action. Nearly 9" high.
☐ 4082. Price Postpaid . . . $2.98

COMPLETE SELF DEFENSE

KETSUGO

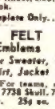
Unbeatable, Unarmed Self Defense. Also known as KARATE, JUDO, JIU JITSU, KARATE, AIKIDO, KAYAKA, KUNG FU, etc. Newest, most complete book. 384 pages. Target areas, nerve centers, pressure points making it possible for a weakling to beat up and control big bullies in seconds. Over 200 illustrations, anatomical charts. How your hands can become more powerful weapons than clubs, knives, even guns in close fighting. Invaluable for ladies. Fully guaranteed to be finest, most complete, most modern book.
☐ 1006. Complete Only. $1.00

15-SHOT BB GUN

SHOOTS STANDARD BB's. Model Army Combat Machine Gun, or remove base and use as hand-held Automatic Pistol. Fires 15 BB's in 3 seconds or one at a time. Precision model with removable swivel base. Automatic hand-crank firing mechanism. 7-inches or 11-inches standard gun size. Postpaid
No. 2908. $1.00. BB's 10¢ Pkg.

FELT Emblems

For Sweater, Shirt, Jacket



Big, colorful. For teams, clubs, fun. 7014. Bulldog. 7738. Bull. 7019. Wildcat. 7736 Tiger. 25¢ ea. 3 for 65¢

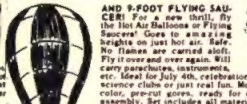
New Ram Jet Engine Burns Gasoline !

For boats, cars, plane models, jet engine experiments, science of jet propulsion, etc. No moving parts. Easy to start. Runs on standard gasoline. Gives a continual thrust. About 6-inches long. Adaptable to most models. Comes complete.
No. 7411. Price Each . . $1.75
2 for $3.00

SCIENTIFIC WONDER

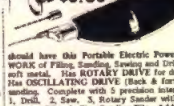
IT CAN'T BE TRUE, BUT LOOK FOR YOURSELF.
Greatest illusion of the century! Apparently see bones thru skin, see thru clothes, etc. Girls will never trust you with them! Use to let them look for themselves and apparently see legs right thru your pants. Amaze and embarrass everyone! Regular size glasses with built-in optical device.
No. 3762. Pair, Postpaid . . . . . Only 95¢

MAMMOTH 9 FOOT HOT AIR BALLOON



AND 9-FOOT FLYING SAUCER! For a new thrill, fly the Hot Air Balloons or Flying "Saucer! Goes to amazing heights on just hot air. Safe. No flames are carried aloft. Fly it over and over again. Will carry parachutes, instruments, etc. Ideal for July 4th, celebrations, science clubs or just real fun. Multi-color, pre-cut gores, ready for quick assembly. Set includes all materials for launching, inflating and flying.
☐ 7077 Hot Air Balloon. 9 Foot Tall. Complete $2.75
☐ 7080. Hot Air Flying Saucer (U.F.O.) 9 Foot Diameter. Complete. $3.95

Portable Electric Power Tool



$5.95

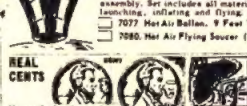
- Drills
- Saws
- Sands
- Files

At this price, every model builder and home craftsman should have this Portable Electric Power Tool! Makes QUICK WORK of Filing, Sanding, Sawing and Drilling on Wood, Plastic or soft metal. Has ROTARY DRIVE for drilling, sanding discs, etc. Has OSCILLATING DRIVE (Back & forth) for sawing, filing and sanding. Complete with 5 precision interchangeable attachments: 1, Drill. 2, Saw. 3, Rotary Sander with extra discs. 4, Coarse Abrasive File. 5, Fine Sanding File. Additional attachments available. 6" long. Attractive molded body for comfortable use in hand. Uses standard batteries. Carrying case with compartments. Made in U.S.A., factory guaranteed.
☐ 5008. Complete Power Tool Set $5.95

Sun Battery — Photo Cell — Solar Cell

Converts light to electric current. Many experimental and practical purposes. Use as a photocell or electric eye to turn lights on and off, operate electric appliances, open or close doors, etc. As a solar cell or sun battery the power will operate many transistor circuits including radios, amplifiers, motors, etc. Generates its own electricity from light. No batteries necessary. With instructions and experiments. Get several for added power.
No. 4924. 65¢. 3 for $1.50; 5 — $2.25; 10 — $4.00

REAL CENTS



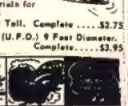
Kennedy Looks at Lincoln

Genuine penny with Lincoln looking at Kennedy. Unusual and rare souvenir.
☐ 5990. Each . . . . .35¢ 3 for . . . . .85¢

Lincoln Smoking Pipe

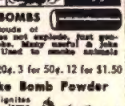
Genuine penny. Lincoln smoking with smoke. Unusual and rare.
☐ 5989. Each . . . . .35¢ 3 for . . . . .85¢

SMOKE BOMBS



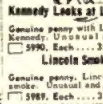
Produce clouds of smoke. Does not explode, just generates smoke. Ideal for many purposes. Used to smoke animals out, etc.
No. 2142. 20¢. 3 for 50¢. 12 for $1.50

Smoke Bomb Powder



Easily ignites to give large amount of smoke. Used for bricks, for TV work, movies, etc. In ash tray, cigaret onto if off. For tricks, stunts. It acts as explosive. Hundreds of uses.
No. 2671. Large Pkg. . . . . 75¢

BOOK SAFE



Looks like attractively bound book, but has secret steel combination lock safe. Keep valuables in sight, but safe. Opens by memory, etc. hidden away. 4x6x1-1/2".
☐ 4012. Price Postpaid . . $1.25

Live Sea Horses

Head like a Horse! Tail like Monkey! Pouch like Kangaroo! Change color! Father gives birth to about 25 baby ponies from his pouch. Grow to 6" long. Independent!" revolving eyes. Protective armor. Swim, mate, entwine tails around each other. Fun & funny. Easy to keep & raise. Nature's cutest oddity. Set includes special 1½ qt. Aquarium, Ocean Hosing Food, Foliage & Stones, Sea Salts, Food (enough for months), 2 fresh live Sea Horses, Booklet, Safe Live Delivery Guaranteed.
☐ 5006. Complete Sea Horse Set Postpaid $3.98

"Flash" Paper

FIRE FROM YOUR FINGERTIPS. Hot-test trick in years! Thousands of magic & trick uses. "Flash Paper" burns in brilliant flash of flame. Can be lighted by cigaret, match, etc. Leaves no ashes, no smoke, no odor since quick flash does not generate much heat. Comes in pad of about 15 sheets. Use one sheet, or less.
No. 2673. Pad 65¢ 3 Pads $1.50

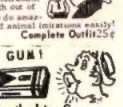
"THROW YOUR VOICE"

Into bare, outside, under bed, make dummy "talk and many other tricks. FOOLS EVERYONE! Instructions include VENTRILO or DOUBLE THROAT. This tiny instrument fits in mouth out of sight. Also do amazing bird and animal imitations easily! Complete Outfit 25¢
No. 3461.

Cut ANY Material with Super-Hack

Remington Du-Pont TUNGSTEN CARBIDE ROD SAW with diamond-like cutting edge quickly cuts thru hardest metals, stainless or tool steel, armored chains, metal cable, glass, glazed tile, marble, toughest plastics and other "unsawable" materials. Cuts any direction: circles, curves, angles, notches, restricted spaces. Non-nagging. Famous non-profit consumer testing service said "really does as claimed". Standard 10" blade.
☐ 4031 Price . . . . . Each $2.50 . . . . . 3 for $6.00

JOKE GUM!



Pucker the Lips Gum
Chew it and lips swell up!
No. 2738. 20¢ Pkg. 3 for 50¢

Garlic (Awful) Gum
The Flavor Lasts. Runs breath for hrs
No. 3735. 20¢ Pkg. 3 for 50¢

POCKET RADIO — $1.75

Listen to MUSIC, SPORTS, NEWS, SPECIAL BROADCASTS with your own personal pocket-size radio. Self-powered—nothing to plug in. Listen in bed, at school, almost anywhere. Hearing-aid style earphone included. Plastic case. Dial tuner. Size of cigarette package. About 3½x2¼x1". Listen-in guarantee.
No. 6598. Complete Ready to Play Only $1.75

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT IN SECONDS!

Eliminates Pimples! Be Good Looking! removes blackheads in seconds, cleanly and safely. No pinching. Guaranteed
No. 4641. $1.00

Catalog of 2700 Novelties

Send 10¢ for amazing catalog of novelties, gifts, live animals, hobbies, fun makers, pranks, books, tricks, jokes, unusual goods, magic items, novelty specialties, optical goods, projectors, movies, science, sports, boats, cameras, radios, radio, auto & bike accessories, banks, jewelers' gadgets, artists' supplies, chemistry sets, microscopes, telescopes, games, musical, scientific supplies, plants, seeds, novelty candies, etc., from all over world. Each name, address & 10¢ sent

SPEEDY ORDER BLANK

Mail to: Johnson Smith Company
Dept. 239, Detroit, Mich. 48224

Please send me:

How Many	Number or Name	Price Each	Total

Use Other Paper If Necessary

Orders Under $5.00	Add	25¢
Catalog (if desired)	Add	10¢
TOTAL ENCLOSED $		

No C.O.D. or set Cash Prices
Send Money in Cash, Check or Money Order. Safe delivery.

Name _____

Address _____

MAIL YOUR ORDERS TO JOHNSON SMITH & CO., Dept. 239, Detroit, Mich 48224

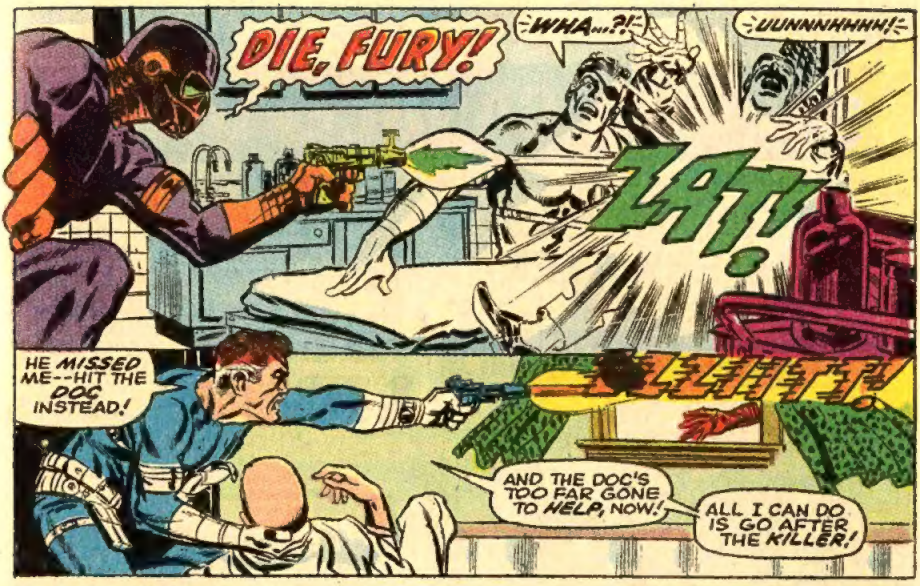
Add 25¢ on Orders Under $5.00

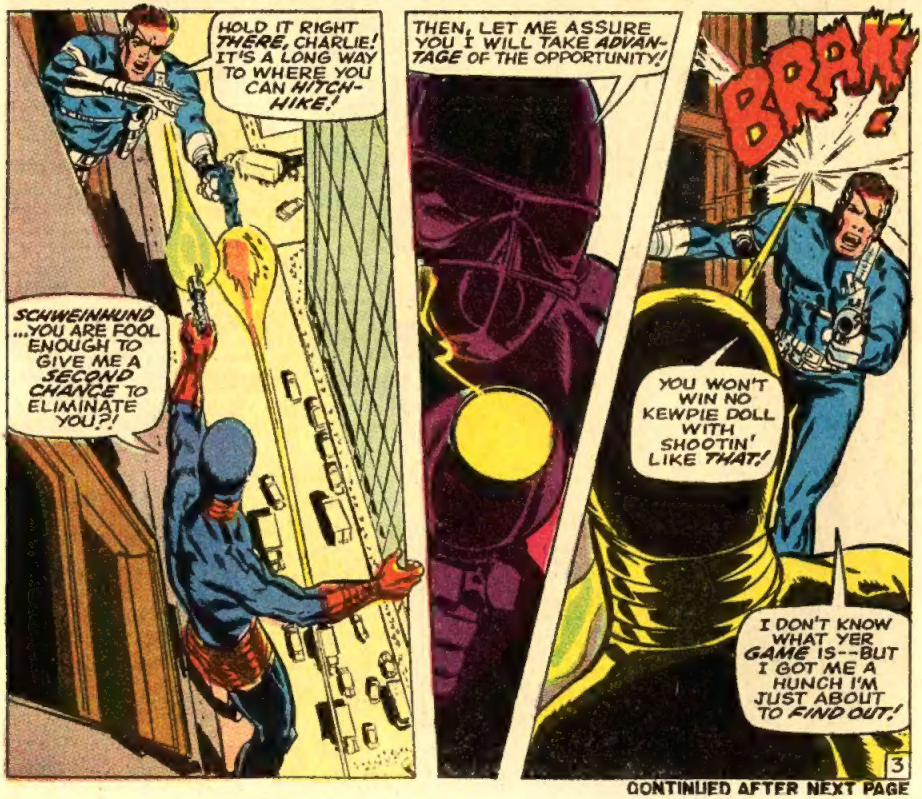
"THE NAME OF THE GAME IS... HATE!"

EDITED BY: STAN LEE
WRITTEN BY: GARY FRIEDRICH
ART BY: FRANK SPRINGER
LETTERED BY: ARTIE SIMEK

NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD is published by PERFECT FILM & CHEMICAL CORP. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. Published monthly. Copyright ©1968 by Perfect Film & Chemical Corp., Marvel Comics Group, all rights reserved, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 9, February, 1969 issue. Price 12¢ per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by World Color Press, Inc., Sparta, Illinois 62286. **Subscription rate $1.75 and $2.25 Canada for 12 issues including postage. Foreign subscriptions $3.25.**

THE RUSH HOUR FALLS ON THE SPRAWLING METROPOLIS THAT IS NEW YORK AS USUAL FOR MOST...
...BUT, FOR COL. NICK FURY...
7 0
NINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNIN'--WHAT A TIME FOR A BLASTED APPOINTMENT!
DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO GET OUTTA THIS CRUMMY ZOOT SUIT I WAS WORKIN' IN ALL NIGHT!
NO MORE MID-WEEK PARTIES FOR ME!
I COULD SWEAR THAT GUY'S WEARIN' A SCUBA-OUTFIT...RIGHT HERE ON PARK AVENUE!
BUT, THE MAN CALLED FURY IS OBLIVIOUS TO THE COMMOTION HE HAS CAUSED IN THE LOBBY BELOW--AND, WITHIN MOMENTS...
OKAY, LADY--YA CAN STOP GAWKIN' AND TELL THE DOC I'M HERE--
AND THE NAME'S FURY--NOT LLOYD BRIDGES!
WHY...ERRR, OF COURSE, COLONEL! GO RIGHT IN! THE DOCTOR'S EXPECTING YOU!
THEN, FOLLOWING A MORE THAN ANNOYING FULL PHYSICAL FOR THE HARD-BITTEN DIRECTOR OF SHIELD...
WELL, COLONEL ...I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU... AND BAD!
GIVE ME THE GOOD FIRST! THE WAY THIS DAY'S STARTIN'...
...I CAN LIVE WITHOUT ANOTHER PROBLEM!
HE'S HERE... JUST AS THE HATE-MONGER PROMISED!
AND, IN ANOTHER FEW SECONDS, NICK FURY WILL BE NO MORE!
IT CAINT BE ANYTHING TOO ROTTEN, THOUGH...
...CAN IT, DOC? I MEAN, I BEEN FEELIN' GREAT, AND...
2


DIE, FURY!
-WHA...?!-
-UUNNNHHHH!-
ZAT!
HE MISSED ME--HIT THE DOG INSTEAD!
AND THE DOG'S TOO FAR GONE TO HELP, NOW!
ALL I CAN DO IS GO AFTER THE KILLER!


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, CHARLIE! IT'S A LONG WAY TO WHERE YOU CAN HITCH-HIKE!
SCHWEINHUND ...YOU ARE FOOL ENOUGH TO GIVE ME A SECOND CHANCE TO ELIMINATE YOU?!
THEN, LET ME ASSURE YOU I WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY!
BRAK!
YOU WON'T WIN NO KEWPIE DOLL WITH SHOOTIN' LIKE THAT!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YER GAME IS--BUT I GOT ME A HUNCH I'M JUST ABOUT TO FIND OUT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

80,000 CANDLEPOWER

FROM ONLY SIX STANDARD FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES IN 3-CELL LENGTH

SKIN DIVERS UNDERWATER BEAM LIGHTS

TREMENDOUS POWER on LAND!

Fire & Police Depts. USE AND RECOMMEND

BEAM LIGHTS

Used by skin divers, hunters, fishermen, shippers, watchmen, fire departments, police (who hail this new light as the answer to their needs).

$8.39
(6 for $5.95 ea.) ppd.

PIERCING BEAM on LAND
Cuts thru FOG & SMOKE

Made to pierce the murky depths and to withstand pressures of underwater operation, on land the beam of this remarkable light leaps out for TWENTY MILES! 80,000 Candlepower illuminates objects clearly a mile away. Pierces smoke-filled areas. Absolutely watertight, including switches, protected by new method. (Second switch operates warning blinker . . . a new feature never before available on powerful fireman's lights. The curved, hard lens reminds you of your automobile headlight.

HAS TWO SWITCHES
One Blinker
One Power-Beam

SHINES A MILE!

No Fish Can Resist SPANISH FLY Bait Oil

Ancient Formula Now Legal for Fishermen

Long a secret, nature product, this new aerosol spray formulation works on the most active sensory organs a fish possesses. Aroma like perfume attracts both male and female fish by working on the forces that control life itself. SPANISH FLY Bait Compound is legal in all states for fish attracting. Spray it on lures, bait, hooks, lines and sinkers. Emulsion spreads thru fresh or salt water in all directions and drives fish wild whether you troll, cast, spin or still-fish. $4.95 in long-lasting aerosol spray can sent postpaid if cash accompanies order. Postage and handling charges added to COD orders. Satisfaction absolutely guaranteed.

FREEMAN ELECTRIC CO. MAR10
501 Newton Bldg.,
Freeman, Mo. 64746

Ship as follows (postpaid)

☐ 6 Beam Lights @ $5.95 ea. (Total $35.70)

☐ 1 Beam Light @ $8.39

☐ **Cans of SPANISH FLY @ $4.95 each ppd.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

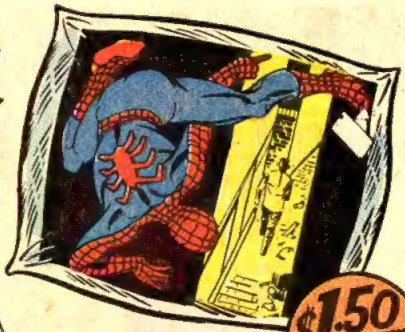
KRAK!
EITHER YOU START TALKIN'...OR START FALLIN'!
JUST MANAGED ...TO SAVE MYSELF! BUT... CAN'T HOLD ON ...LONG!
DON'T HAVE A CHANCE UNLESS... WAIT!
THEN, AS THE OUTSTRETCHED HAND OF NICK FURY DESPERATELY REACHES FOR ITS QUARRY...
C'MON AND GRAB HOLD, YA CRUMB!
NO THANK YOU, COLONEL! I MUCH PREFER TO FALL...
...INTO THE SAFETY OF MY RESCUE CRAFT!
AUF WIEDERSEHEN, COLONEL FURY... UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!
THEN, AS THE ASSASSIN'S CRAFT DISAPPEARS INTO THE SMOG-CHOKED NEW YORK SKY-LINE...
THAT "H" INSIGNIA --LIKE A BEACON OUTTA THE PAST--!
IT CAN ONLY MEAN...
...THE HATE-MONGER'S FINALLY BACK IN ACTION... AND SOONER'N WE EXPECTED!
4

I'D BETTER CHECK ON THE DOC...
...BEFORE I GET MY TAIL TO HQ AND SOUND THE ALARM!
"IT SEEMS LIKE JUST LAST WEEK THAT I FIRST TANGLED WITH 'IM--EVEN THOUGH IT WUZ REALLY A COUPLE'A YEARS AGO!"*
JUST LIKE I FIGURED... HE'S A GONER! NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT 'IM!
JUST AN INNOCENT JOKER DOIN' HIS JOB--AND NOW HE'S DEAD--'CAUSE'A WHAT THE HATEMONGER DID...AND DOES... STAND FOR!
"I WUZ WITH THE CIA THEN--AN' I TEAMED UP WITH MY OL' BUDDY REED RICHARDS TO GET THE BEST OF 'IM!"
*IT HAPPENED IN F.F. #21! --STAN.
"IT DIDN'T TAKE OL' REED LONG TO FIGURE OUT ABOUT THE MONGER'S HATE-RAY..."
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE --WITH THIS WEAPON ...HE CAN WARP THE MINDS OF EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD ON EARTH!
THE WEAPON CAN TURN EVERY-ONE INTO HIS HATE-FILLED PAWN!
"BUT, AFTER I'D MANAGED TO GET THE FF OUT FROM UNDER HIS SPELL..."
"...THE FF AN' ME WENT ON TO MOP UP HIS WHOLE BLASTED SET UP!"
"INCLUDIN' THE HATE-MONGER HIMSELF..."
"...WITH A LITTLE FAST-THINKIN' HELP FROM THE INVISIBLE GIRL...
"...AND ONE'A HIS OWN BRUISERS!"
NO...NO! YOU ARE MY SERVANTS... AAGGGHH!
5

"THEN, NATURALLY, WE COULDN'T WAIT TO FIND OUT WHO HE REALLY WAS..."
"BUT NONE OF US WUZ REALLY QUITE READY FOR WHAT WE SAW WHEN WE RIPPED OFF HIS MASK..."
IT...IT CAN'T BE!
BUT...IT IS!
ADOLF HITLER!
'COURSE, IT COULD'A BEEN ONE'A HIS DOUBLES--BUT THE MAIN THING IS THE FORCE BEHIND 'IM... NAZIISM!
KA CHUNG!
NOW...SOMEHOW, HE'S BACK AGAIN! AND NOBODY'LL BE ABLE TO TAKE A BREATH'A FRESH AIR...TILL HE'S BEEN FINISHED OFF FOR GOOD!
6

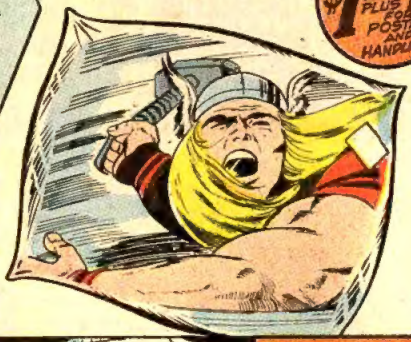
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

IT'S BRAND NEW!!
MARVEL'S SWINGIN' INFLATABLE
PLASTIC PILLOWS!



INTRODUCING THE LATEST, MOST ORIGINAL MARVEL MERCHANDISING MASTERPIECES EVER... THREE DIMENSIONAL SUPER-HERO PLASTIC PILLOWS THAT CAN HOLD MORE WEIGHT THAN YOU CAN SHAKE A FORBUSH AT! YOU CAN BANG 'EM! TOSS 'EM! EVEN LET 'EM **HANG LOOSE** ON THE WALL! ...EITHER **SPIDER-MAN** OR **THOR**, IN FULL COLOR YET!

$1.50 PLUS 15¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING



I'D LIKE _____ SPIDER-MAN PILLOWS.
I'D LIKE _____ THOR PILLOWS.
TOTAL → _____

SEND TO:
MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. P.P.
625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____

SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY.

MARVEL SUPER-HERO T-SHIRTS

ONLY $2.00 EA. INCLUDING POSTAGE AND HANDLING. WRITE SIZE IN COUPON BELOW:
YOUTH - MEDIUM-LARGE
ADULT - SMALL-MEDIUM-LARGE

WE'VE ONLY GOT A **LIMITED SUPPLY**, FRANTIC ONES, SO RUSH YOUR ORDER IN NOW!

The MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP KIT!

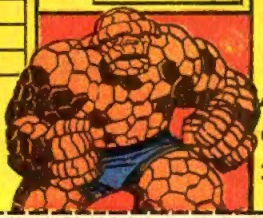
ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP KIT: AN OFFICIAL RECORDING OF M.M.M.S. SONG... SWINGIN' STICKERS OF EIGHT MARVEL HEROES ...A NUTTY NEW NOTE PAD... A MARVEL MINI-BOOK... A MARVEL PENCIL... AN M.M.M.S. CERTIFICATE... YOUR OWN MEMBERSHIP CARD... *ALL FOR ONLY* **$1.00**

PRESENT MEMBERS: SEND US YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND WE'LL SEND YOU NEW KIT FOR 75¢

T-SHIRTS	SIZE	QUANTITY
CAPT. MARVEL		
SPIDER-MAN		
THE HULK		
THOR		

TOTAL $ _____

MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY KIT $ _____



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Name..... Age.....

Address..... Apt. No..... County.....

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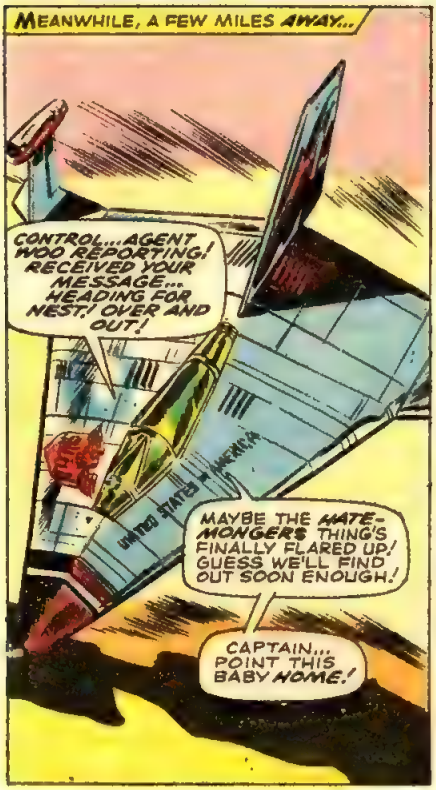
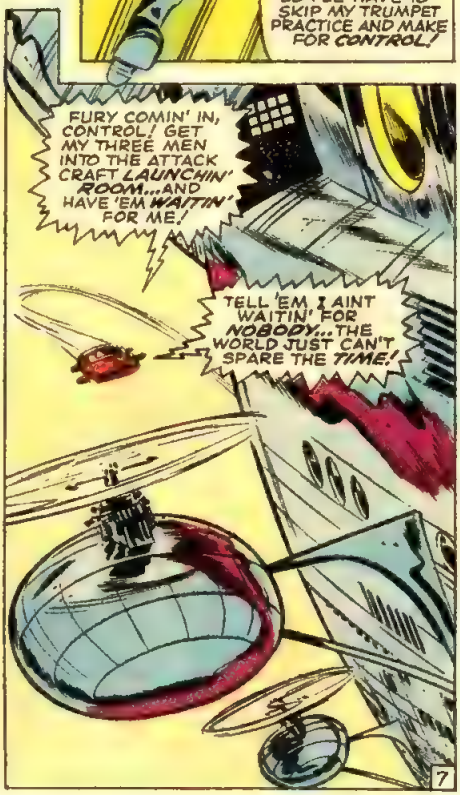
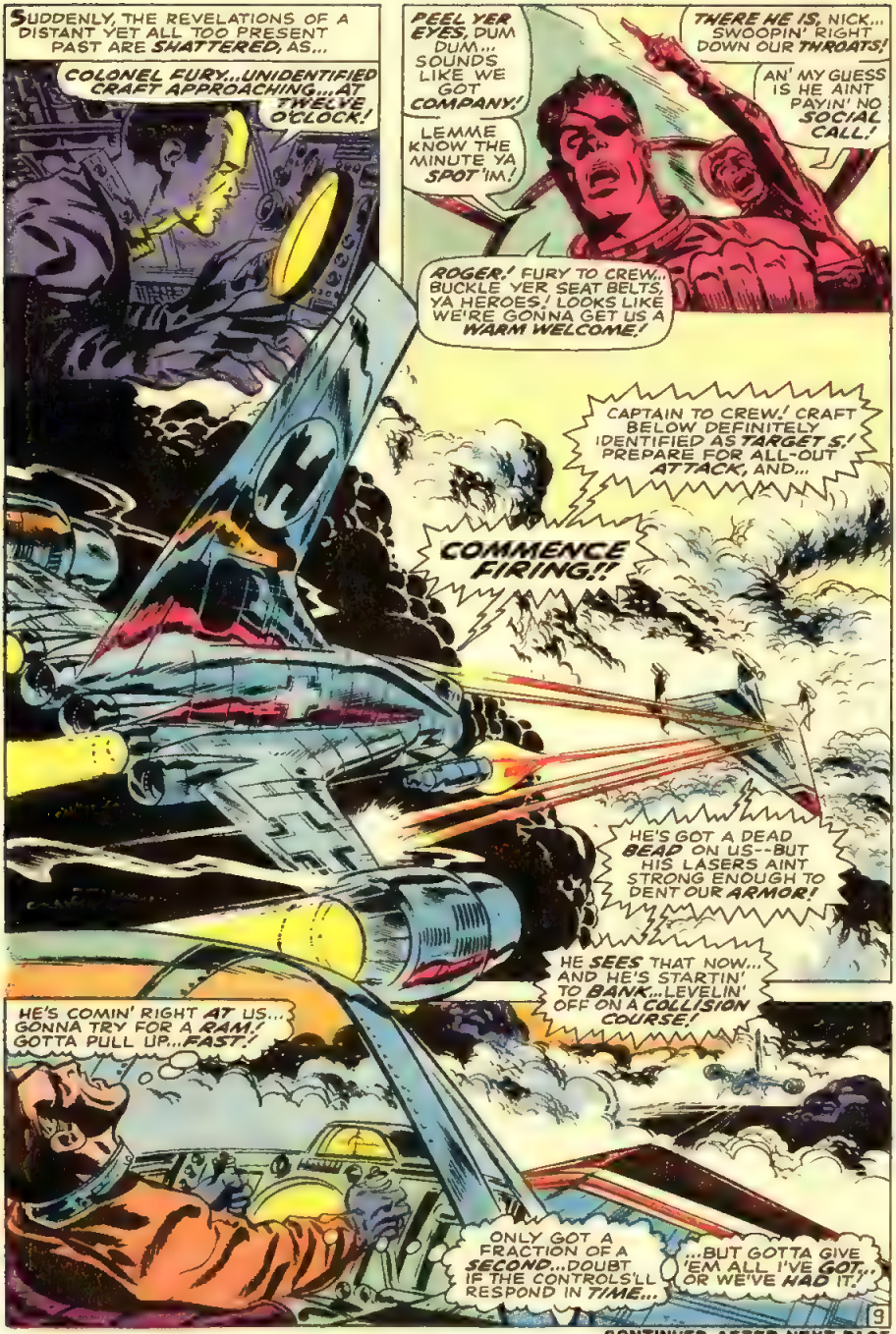
THEN, SECONDS LATER, ABOARD SHIELD'S AIRBORNE HELICARRIER...
ARE YOU SURE IT WUZ 1 S MEN, NICK--I MEAN, WE WEREN'T EVEN SURE HE WUZ OPERATIN' AGAIN!
WELL, WE'RE SURE NOW, YA OL' WALRUS! SO CALL JONES AN WOO AN' GET 'EM READY TO MOVE OUT!
ROGER, NICK!
AGENTS JONES AND WOO...REPORT TA MAIN CONTROL ON THE DOUBLE... MISSION-READY!

AND, ONLY MOMENTS AFTER THE URGENT MESSAGE HAS BEEN RADIOED THROUGHOUT THE GIGANTIC FLYING FORTRESS...
WONDER WHAT THE BIG HEAT'S ALL ABOUT! DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING PRESSIN' WUZ GOIN' ON THESE DAYS!
BUT, YA NEVER KNOW-- SEEMS LIKE THERE'S SOME NEW NUT TRYIN' TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD EVERY OTHER DAY!
ANYWAY, WHEN FURY SAYS JUMP, YOU'D BETTER MAKE LIKE A JACK-RABBIT-- SO I'LL HAVE TO SKIP MY TRUMPET PRACTICE AND MAKE FOR CONTROL!


MEANWHILE, A FEW MILES AWAY...
CONTROL...AGENT WOO REPORTING! RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE... HEADING FOR NEST! OVER AND OUT!
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MAYBE THE HATE-MONGERS THING'S FINALLY FLARED UP! GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!
CAPTAIN... POINT THIS BABY HOME!


FURY COMIN' IN, CONTROL! GET MY THREE MEN INTO THE ATTACK CRAFT LAUNCHIN' ROOM...AND HAVE 'EM WAITIN' FOR ME!
TELL 'EM I AINT WAITIN' FOR NOBODY...THE WORLD JUST CAN'T SPARE THE TIME!

AND, IN ANOTHER TEN MINUTES...
FURY TO CONTROL...ALL SYSTEMS GO! PREPARE TO LAUNCH ATTACK-CRAFT ONE!
GET READY TO BLAST OFF, YA, YA-HOOOS! THIS AINT EXACTLY NO SPACE ODYSSEY WE'RE GOIN' ON...
...BUT THAT DON'T MAKE IT ANY LESS IMPORTANT!
THEN, AS THE SLEEK CRAFT ROCKETS HIGH INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AT A SPEED THREE TIMES THAT OF SOUND... THE CREW FINDS ITSELF LOST IN A GRIM REVERIE OF THE HATE-FILLED PAST!
Herald
NEW YORK
Germans March on Yugoslavia and
Two Nations Defiant as Balkan War
and Belgrade Sig


SUDDENLY, THE REVELATIONS OF A DISTANT YET ALL TOO PRESENT PAST ARE SHATTERED, AS...
COLONEL FURY...UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT APPROACHING...AT TWELVE O'CLOCK!
PEEL YER EYES, DUM DUM... SOUNDS LIKE WE GOT COMPANY!
LEMME KNOW THE MINUTE YA SPOT 'IM!
THERE HE IS, NICK... SWOOPIN' RIGHT DOWN OUR THROATS!
AN' MY GUESS IS HE AINT PAYIN' NO SOCIAL CALL!
ROGER! FURY TO CREW... BUCKLE YER SEAT BELTS, YA HEROES! LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA GET US A WARM WELCOME!
CAPTAIN TO CREW! CRAFT BELOW DEFINITELY IDENTIFIED AS TARGETS! PREPARE FOR ALL-OUT ATTACK, AND...
COMMENCE FIRING!!
HE'S GOT A DEAD BEAD ON US--BUT HIS LASERS AINT STRONG ENOUGH TO DENT OUR ARMOR!
HE SEES THAT NOW... AND HE'S STARTIN' TO BANK...LEVELIN' OFF ON A COLLISION COURSE!
HE'S COMIN' RIGHT AT US... GONNA TRY FOR A RAM! GOTTA PULL UP...FAST!
ONLY GOT A FRACTION OF A SECOND...DOUBT IF THE CONTROLS'LL RESPOND IN TIME...
...BUT GOTTA GIVE 'EM ALL I'VE GOT... OR WE'VE HAD IT!
9

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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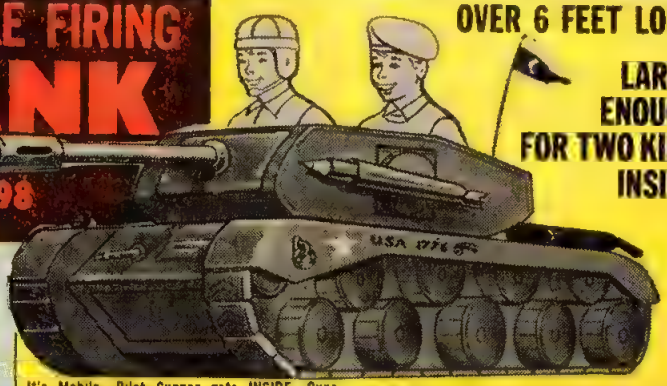

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Post Office ..... State .....

Zip Code No. .....

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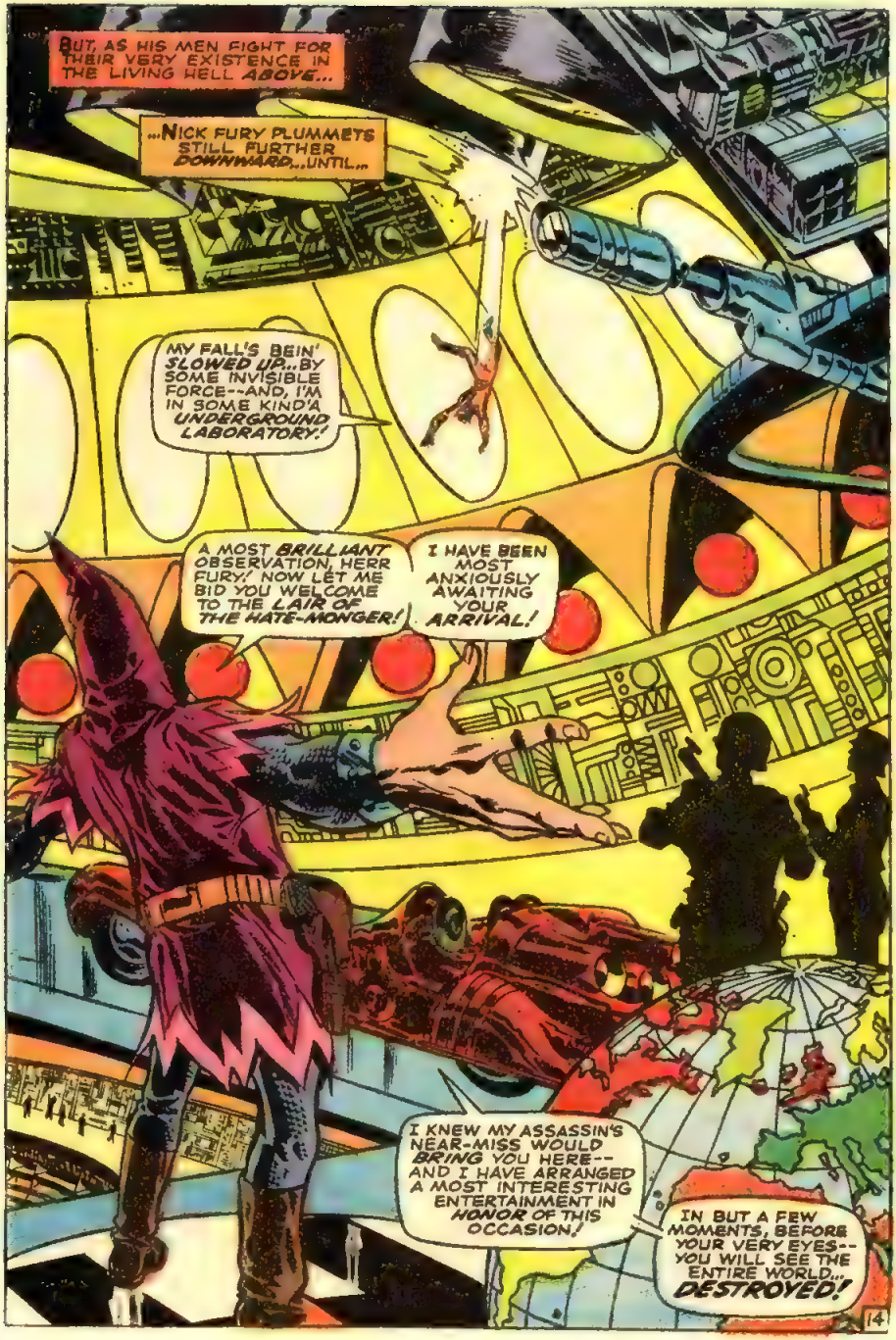
THEN, AT THE LAST POSSIBLE INSTANT...
MADE IT...AN' NOT A SECOND TOO SOON! DIDN'T THINK EVEN THIS CRATE'D GET US UP IN TIME!
NOW HAVE TO TRY TO GET THE DROP ON HIM--BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO RECOVER! CAN'T GIVE 'IM ANOTHER CRACK AT US!
DONNERWETTER! ONLY THE MOST SKILLED OF PILOTS COULD HAVE AVOIDED THE CRASH!
NOW IT IS I WHO AM THE HUNTED...
GOT 'IM IN MY SIGHTS! JUST A MATTER'A SQUEEZIN' THE TRIGGER, AND...
...AND THE ACCURSED NICK FURY WHO IS THE HUNTER!
KA-BOOM!
THAT'S ALL SHE WROTE!
STOP BRAGGIN' AND OPEN YER PEEPERS, OL' TIMER--AN' SEE IF YA CAN SPOT A PLACE FOR US TA LAND THIS HEAP!
GOOD SHOOTIN', NICK--ALTHO' I COULD'A PROB'LY DONE THE SAME THING WITH A PINEAPPLE!
WE STILL GOT WORK TA DO!

EEEE

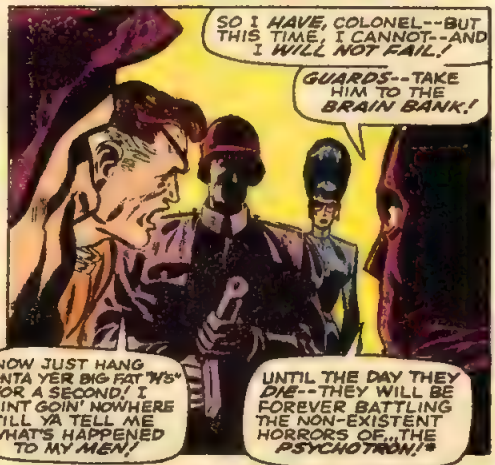
SUDDENLY:
WE'RE OUT OF CONTROL
EJECT EJECT
THEN AS THE AGENTS OF SHIELD PLUMMET TOWARD THE GROUND THEY ARE SUDDENLY SWEPT INTO A TERRIFYING VORTEX OF MADDENINGLY SWIRLING COLORS...


BUT, AS HIS MEN FIGHT FOR THEIR VERY EXISTENCE IN THE LIVING WELL ABOVE...
...NICK FURY PLUMMETS STILL FURTHER DOWNWARD...UNTIL...
MY FALL'S BEIN' SLOWED UP...BY SOME INVISIBLE FORCE--AND, I'M IN SOME KIND'A UNDERGROUND LABORATORY!
A MOST BRILLIANT OBSERVATION, HERR FURY! NOW LET ME BID YOU WELCOME TO THE LAIR OF THE HATE-MONGER!
I HAVE BEEN MOST ANXIOUSLY AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL!
I KNEW MY ASSASSIN'S NEAR-MISS WOULD BRING YOU HERE--AND I HAVE ARRANGED A MOST INTERESTING ENTERTAINMENT IN HONOR OF THIS OCCASION!
IN BUT A FEW MOMENTS, BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES--YOU WILL SEE THE ENTIRE WORLD... DESTROYED!

THEN, AS THE INVISIBLE FORCE-RAY GENTLY LOWERS ITS LOAD TO THE FLOOR...
YES...FROM MY FOURTH REICH HEADQUARTERS BELOW THE EARTH'S SURFACE...
...YOU WILL BE PRIVILEGED TO VIEW THE OBLITERATION OF ALL MANKIND!
IT SEEMS TO ME I HEARD THAT SONG BEFORE, CHUCKLES! THE LEAST YA COULD DO'S COME UP WITH SOME NEW LYRICS!

LET ME ASSURE YOU, COLONEL FURY--THAT THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER!
AS YOU WILL SOON SEE FOR YOURSELF...
I HAVE AT MY DISPOSAL THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO WIPE FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH THOSE WHO ONCE NEARLY IMPOSED A SIMILAR FATE ON ME!

I WAS BORN TO OVERCOME THE IGNORANT MASSES --AND TO LEAD THE MASTER RACE TO SUPREMACY!
NOW, WITH THE MERE TOUCH OF A TINY BUTTON--ALL THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED!
COME OFF IT, CURLY! YOU BEEN FEEDIN' ME THE SAME HOGWASH SINCE THE WAR!


SO I HAVE, COLONEL--BUT THIS TIME, I CANNOT--AND I WILL NOT FAIL!
GUARDS--TAKE HIM TO THE BRAIN BANK!
NOW JUST HANG ONTA YER BIG FAT "H'S" FOR A SECOND! I AINT GOIN' NOWHERE TILL YA TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY MEN!
UNTIL THE DAY THEY DIE--THEY WILL BE FOREVER BATTLING THE NON-EXISTENT HORRORS OF...THE PSYCHOTRON!*

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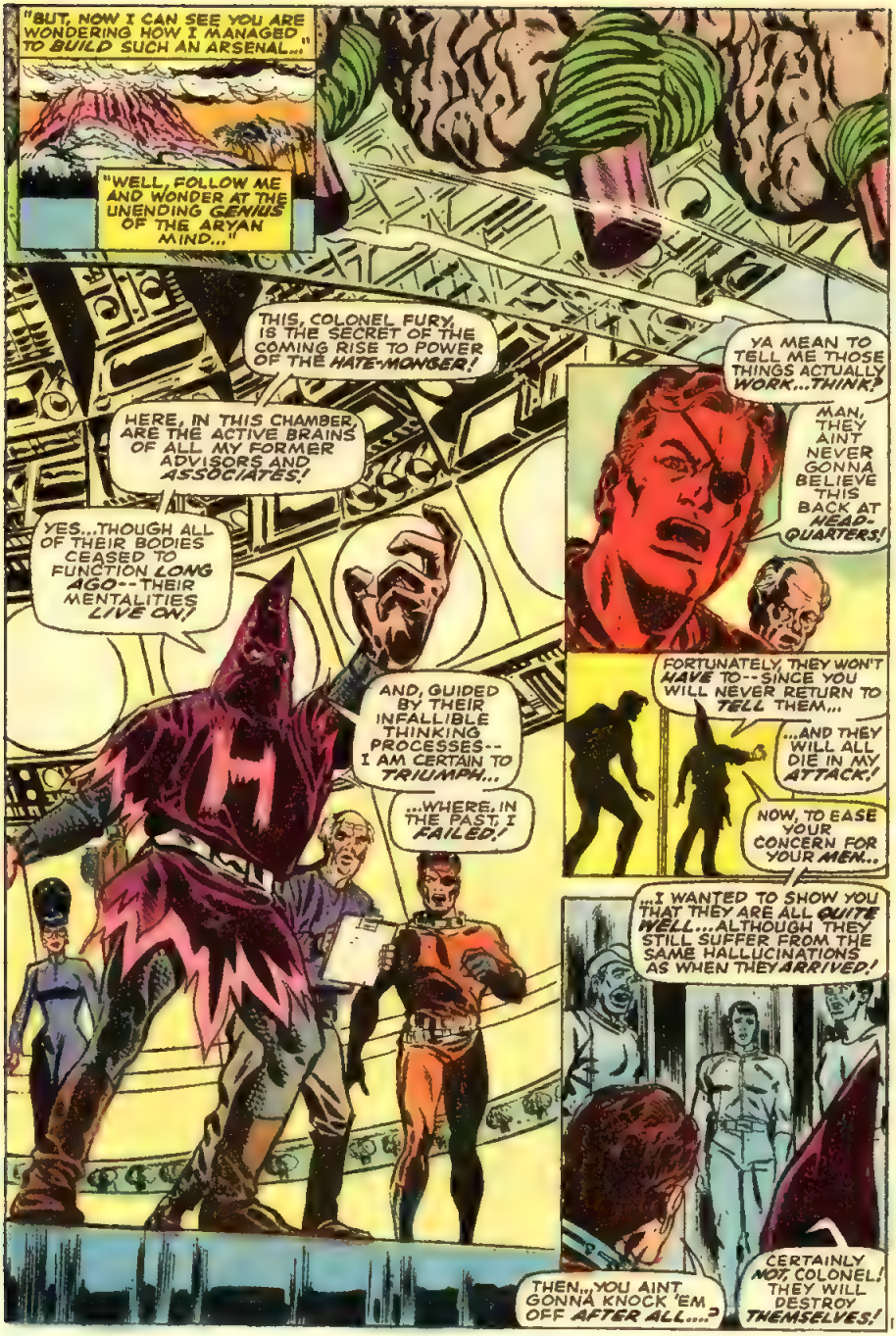
YOUR ALARM IS HARDLY NECESSARY, COLONEL!
OUR VERSION OF THE PSYCHO-TRON IS PURELY EXPERI-MENTAL--AND ONLY EFFECTIVE OVER A VERY SMALL SMALL AREA!
NOT THAT IT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO DO AWAY WITH YOUR CREW--BUT IT POSES NO THREAT TO THE WORLD AS A WHOLE...
...AS THE MODEL DEVELOPED BY RED CHINA ONCE DID!
YOU SEE, WE HAVE DEVELOPED A CONSIDERABLY MORE SIMPLE WAY OF ACHIEVING OUR LEADER'S GOALS!
HOWEVER, I BELIEVE DR. KAUPFMAN CAN EXPLAIN THAT BETTER THAN I... DOCTOR...
WITH PLEASURE, FRAU KLINE! WE WILL BLOW UP THE WORLD WITH NUCLEAR-ARMED MISSILES!
ENOUGH OF THIS MEANINGLESS PRATTLE! LET US SHOW OUR GUEST THE GREATEST ARSENAL EVER DEVELOPED BY MAN!
BEHOLD, COLONEL--THE MOST FORMIDABLE MISSILE FORCE ON THIS PLANET--AND ALL ARMED WITH NUCLEAR WARHEADS!
ALL POISED AND READY TO DEAL A DEATH-BLOW TO EVERY NATION ON EARTH...AT THE MERE TOUCH OF A BUTTON!
AND, BY TOUCHING THAT BUTTON, I WILL END FOREVER THE YEARS OF SUFFERING I HAVE ENDURED AT THE HANDS OF MY RACE'S ENEMIES!
THEN, FINALLY, WHEN THE GREAT HOLOCAUST ABOVE HAS ENDED--ONLY THE MASTER RACE WILL ENDURE--AND I, NATURALLY, WILL LEAD THEM!


"BUT, NOW I CAN SEE YOU ARE WONDERING HOW I MANAGED TO BUILD SUCH AN ARSENAL..."
"WELL, FOLLOW ME AND WONDER AT THE UNENDING GENIUS OF THE ARYAN MIND..."
THIS, COLONEL FURY, IS THE SECRET OF THE COMING RISE TO POWER OF THE HATE-MONGER!
HERE, IN THIS CHAMBER, ARE THE ACTIVE BRAINS OF ALL MY FORMER ADVISORS AND ASSOCIATES!
YES...THOUGH ALL OF THEIR BODIES CEASED TO FUNCTION LONG AGO--THEIR MENTALITIES LIVE ON!
AND, GUIDED BY THEIR INFALLIBLE THINKING PROCESSES--I AM CERTAIN TO TRIUMPH...
...WHERE, IN THE PAST, I FAILED!
YA MEAN TO TELL ME THOSE THINGS ACTUALLY WORK...THINK?
MAN, THEY AINT NEVER GONNA BELIEVE THIS BACK AT HEAD-QUARTERS!
FORTUNATELY, THEY WON'T HAVE TO--SINCE YOU WILL NEVER RETURN TO TELL THEM...
...AND THEY WILL ALL DIE IN MY ATTACK!
NOW, TO EASE YOUR CONCERN FOR YOUR MEN...
"...I WANTED TO SHOW YOU THAT THEY ARE ALL QUITE WELL...ALTHOUGH THEY STILL SUFFER FROM THE SAME HALLUCINATIONS AS WHEN THEY ARRIVED!
CERTAINLY NOT, COLONEL! THEY WILL DESTROY THEMSELVES!
THEN...YOU AINT GONNA KNOCK 'EM OFF AFTER ALL...?

NEIN!
IT IS YOU...WHO HAVE DESTROYED YOURSELF!
VAS IST...?!
YOU TRICKED ME INTO JOINING YOU--MAKING ME BELIEVE YOU INTENDED TO BETTER MANKIND!
NOT UNTIL RECENTLY DID I LEARN THAT YOUR PLAN WAS ONE OF SHEER REVENGE!
KEEP SINGIN', CHARLIE! I DUNNO THE TUNE--BUT I DIG THE WORDS!
I THOUGHT I WAS WORKING TO CREATE A NEW SOCIETY--DEDICATED TO SAVING MAN FROM HIMSELF...
...BUT NOW I KNOW YOUR IDENTITY--AND YOUR TRUE GOAL--AND NOTHING WILL STOP ME FROM DESTROYING YOU!
ZAK!
THE FIRST TO GO WILL BE THE BRAIN-BANK I CREATED FOR YOU! THEN, THE NEXT TO DIE WILL BE...
...YOU!
AND NOW, LET THE ENTIRE WORLD KNOW... WHO YOU REALLY ARE!
HIMMEL! NOOOO!
SONUVAGUN!
YOU'RE THE SECOND ADOLF THAT'S TURNED UP IN THE LAST COUPLE'A YEARS!
WELL, HE ISN'T THE ONLY MASQUERADER AROUND HERE, COLONEL!
LAURA BROWN! I KNEW WE HAD AN AGENT WORKIN' DOWN HERE--BUT I THOUGHT YOU WUZ RETIRED!
THERE WILL BE TIME FOR YOUR REUNION LATER! NOW, LET ME FREE YOUR COMRADES!
CERTAINLY, PROFESSOR--AND, LET ME ASSURE YOU ONCE MORE THAT YOU DID THE RIGHT THING!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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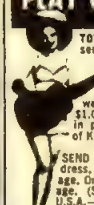

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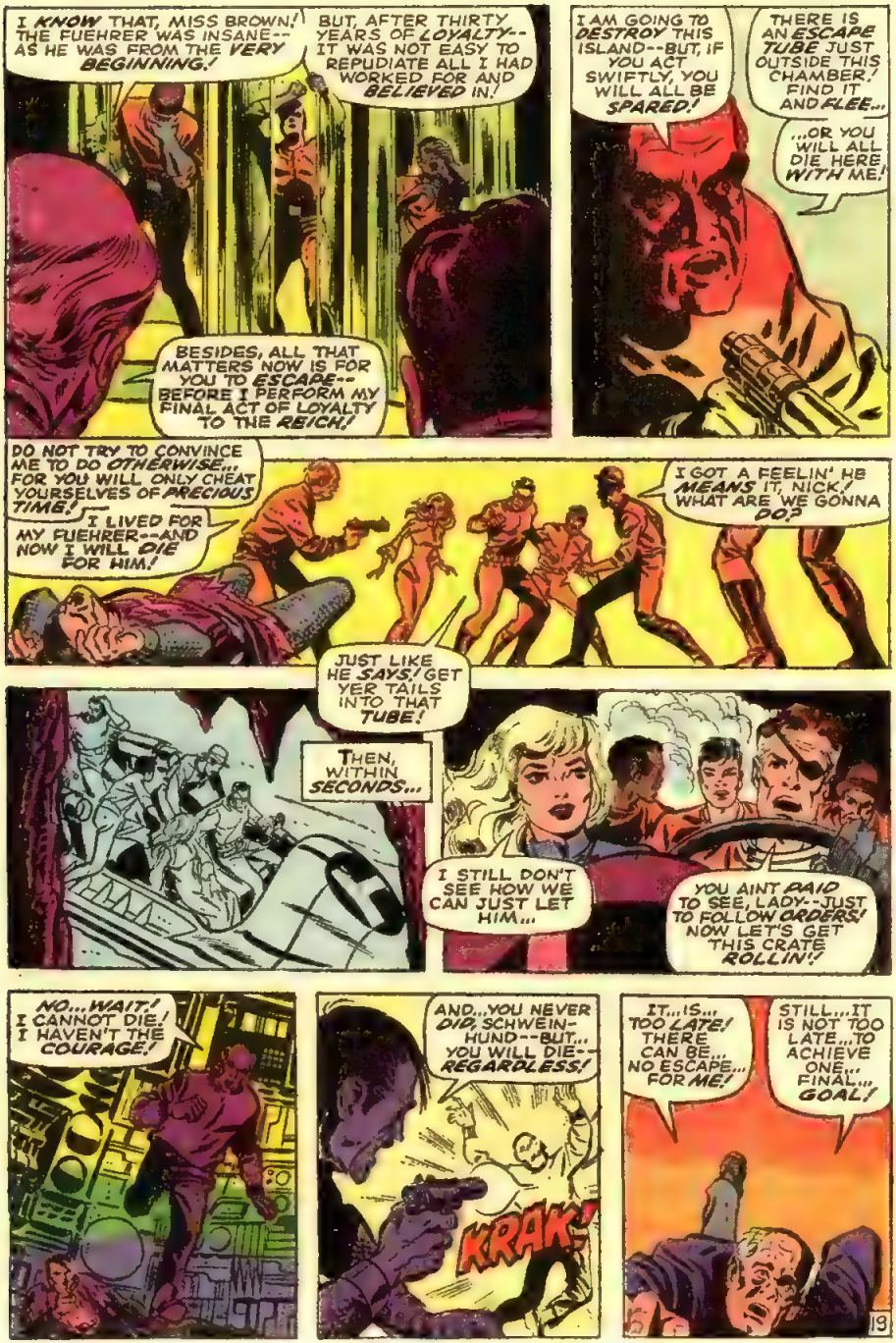
I KNOW THAT, MISS BROWN! THE FUEHRER WAS INSANE--AS HE WAS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING!
BUT, AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF LOYALTY--IT WAS NOT EASY TO REPUDIATE ALL I HAD WORKED FOR AND BELIEVED IN!
BESIDES, ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS FOR YOU TO ESCAPE--BEFORE I PERFORM MY FINAL ACT OF LOYALTY TO THE REICH!
I AM GOING TO DESTROY THIS ISLAND--BUT, IF YOU ACT SWIFTLY, YOU WILL ALL BE SPARED!
THERE IS AN ESCAPE TUBE JUST OUTSIDE THIS CHAMBER! FIND IT AND FLEE...
...OR YOU WILL ALL DIE HERE WITH ME!
DO NOT TRY TO CONVINCE ME TO DO OTHERWISE... FOR YOU WILL ONLY CHEAT YOURSELVES OF PRECIOUS TIME!
I LIVED FOR MY FUEHRER--AND NOW I WILL DIE FOR HIM!
I GOT A FEELIN' HE MEANS IT, NICK! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
JUST LIKE HE SAYS! GET YER TAILS INTO THAT TUBE!
THEN, WITHIN SECONDS...
I STILL DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN JUST LET HIM...
YOU AINT PAID TO SEE, LADY--JUST TO FOLLOW ORDERS! NOW LET'S GET THIS CRATE ROLLIN'!
NO...WAIT! I CANNOT DIE! I HAVEN'T THE COURAGE!
AND...YOU NEVER DID, SCHWEIN-HUND--BUT... YOU WILL DIE--REGARDLESS!
KRAK!
IT...IS... TOO LATE! THERE CAN BE... NO ESCAPE... FOR ME!
STILL...IT IS NOT TOO LATE...TO ACHIEVE ONE... FINAL... GOAL!

IF ONLY... I HAVE STRENGTH ENOUGH... TO REACH THE DESTRUCT LEVER!
MUST...REACH IT...OR EVERY-THING...I LIVED FOR... WILL HAVE BEEN...IN VAIN!
JUST A FEW... FEET MORE... AND...
...I HAVE IT!
DEST
NOW, I HAVE ONLY TO PULL, IN ORDER TO DESTROY EVERYTHING...
...TO DIE FOR...AND WITH... MEIN FUEHRER!
SIEG HEIL!
KRROOOM
WHILE, SOME FIVE MILES AWAY...
KEEP MOVIN', YA YA-HOOOS! THERE'S A RAFT DEAD AHEAD--AND WE'LL HAVE TO PADDLE AWAY FROM THE ISLAND...
...IN CASE THERE'RE ANY CHAIN REACTIONS TO THAT EXPLOSION!
AND, FINALLY, SEVERAL HUNDRED YARDS OUT TO SEA...
THERE'S SO MANY BLASTED QUESTIONS WE AIN'T GOT ANSWERS FOR--LIKE, WAS IT REALLY HITLER... OR WAS THE FIRST HATE-MONGER HITLER?
THE ONLY ANSWER I HAVE IS THAT I'M REALLY LAURA BROWN...AND I'VE MISSED YOU, NICK!
WHY DON'T YA BOTH KNOCK IT OFF AND PADDLE? IT'S A LONG WAY TO OUR PICK-UP POINT!
THE END

SENSATIONAL SCOOPS TO STARTLE, STUN, AND SOOTHE YOU!

ITEM! It had to happen! Smilin' STAN THE MAN and Jaunty JIM STERANKO have finally teamed up to collaborate on one of Marvel's top strips — none other than Captain America! As for Jolly JACK KIRBY the only reason the King has abandoned Cap is to give himself time enough to work with Smiley on a new title — one which promises to become the biggest block-buster of '69 — and we'll bet you can guess what it'll be!

ITEM! Everyone's raving about the new marvelously mysterious mood that JIM MOONEY has brought to the Amazing Spider-Man! Fandom agrees that teaming MADMAN MOONEY with JOHNNY (Ring-A-Ding) ROMITA'S sensational storyboard layouts is the smartest move we've made since Forbush Man! And, by the way, did you know that madcap Mooney is one of our Leader's oldest and closest friends (although you'd never guess it by the way they're always battling!)? And they're still arguing about who was the first to grow his batty beard

ITEM! Happy HERB TRIMPE (rhymes with Wimpy) will be starting a new strip in a month or two — in addition to penciling the Hulk. This talented, terrific newcomer has put on to be one of Marvel's most talked about finds . . . and you'll never guess which strip he's gonna do (unless you happen to guess that it features a certain Latverian monarch who can't exactly be called a good guy!)

KEEPING-UP-TO-DATE DEPT.: Stop the presses! Since writing the second item above, our unpredictable Bullpen ramrod just shaved off his face fuzz! Smiley claimed he felt like a member of a rock 'n roll group when he'd go out to lunch with goateed STAN G., ARNIE DRAKE, and Jumbo JOHN VERPOORTEN! — Speaking of shrubbery, you should see the snazzy new long side burns that Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY is sporting! If they don't stop growing, he'll have to tie them under his chin! — And Groovy GARY FRIEDRICH must have been out in the bright sun every second of his stay in California recently, 'cause he's now a real yellow-haired yahoo! — Instead of keeping on the lookout for new artists and writers, we may become the only Bullpen with a full-time BARBER in attendance!

ITEM! Has anyone ever tried counting the number of ATTACKS that have appeared in that mag since the first ish? We were arguing about it over coffee one day, and no one has yet come up with the definitive answer. So, if any of you frantic ones wanna earn yourselves a second hand noogie — !

ITEM! We couldn't sign off without telling you that Fabulous FLO STEINBERG, our former Gal Friday, has a great new job at Rockefeller Center, not too far from our own offices here — and wants to thank her many friends out there in Marveldom for their letters and good wishes. She still drops in occasionally to poke thru the mountain of mail that arrives each day, so watch what you say in your letters, hear?

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Wow! Talk about a dilemma! Ever since we discontinued writing answers to the letters on our fan pages, the whole roof caved in on us! We haven't had so much angry mail since the Human Torch was just a matchstick! One of the letters which really knocked us out was this — "Dear Stan, Here's an amazing coincidence. You aren't answering your letters, and I'm not buying your comics. — Mike Nave, 1711 Virginia St., Joplin, Mo. 64801" And that's just one of the milder responses! Well, there's only one thing to do — we've got to bow before the world-wide wrath of Marveldom Assembled! The only problem is, we weren't kidding when we announced that we didn't really have time to write the answers to all the letters we publish. So, suppose we compromise? Starting next ish, we'll try to answer those that need answering, and weasel our way out of the others, hoping that nobody will notice! Fair 'nuff? Okay, till we stumble again and come up with egg on our face, we'll let it go at that — and, the next time some non-believer tells you that we don't really listen to our rabid readers, let us know — we'll sit in a corner and cry a little!

Excelsior!
Smiley

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SPIDER-MAN #69: Is the Kingpin really stronger than Spidey? Will the web-spinner turn bad? And what about the campus protestors? It's practically an epic!

AVENGERS #60: The wondrous wedding of the Wasp and Yellowjacket is catered by . . . would'ja believe The Ringmaster & Co.?! It's jam-packed with villains!

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CAPTAIN AMERICA #110: Written by Stan Lee! Drawn by Jim Steranko! Featuring a new partner for Cap! No matter how many mags we print, there won't be enough!

HULK #112: Only ol' Green Skin could challenge the Galaxy Master! But, can he battle an entire world? And wait'll you see how it ends!

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CAPTAIN MARVEL #10: Yon Rogg finally gets his heart's desire when Mar-Vell is sentenced to death for crimes against the Kree! A space-spawned sensation!

DR. STRANGE #177: You won't believe your eyes when an all-new Doc Strange is forced to fight himself — with the very life of the Ancient One at stake!

SGT. FURY #62: The shell-shocked surprise you never expected to see — Nick Fury in basic training! This one's a must for all Bullpen battle-mag buffs!

CAPTAIN SAVAGE #10: The Japanese invade a strategic allied island — and the battlefield Raiders must defend it . . . "To The Last Man!"

COLLECTOR'S ITEM CLASSICS #19: The Fantastic Four, Iron Man, and everybody's favorite Master of the Mystic Arts, Doc Strange — all between the covers of a single mag! Bargain days are here again!

RAWHIDE KID #68: It's wild and wooly western action at its Bullpen bustin best — as the Kid faces the most dangerous desperado of all . . . the Cougar!

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #3: Hey! Here's a real kick! We just realized that Stan the Man himself wrote this entire ish! Wait'll you see the "master's touch" on every action-packed page!

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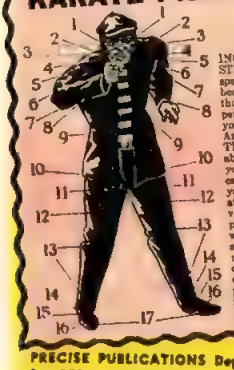

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DON'T YIELD, WRITE S.H.I.E.L.D.

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE., N.Y., N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and Jim,

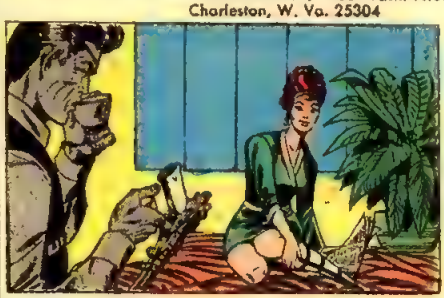
After reading your Bullpen announcement about now having readers speak up against D.D.T.'s (dubious demoniacal traitors!), let me be the first of many others to raise and wield the hatchet of retaliation. Victim: a Mr. Fred Lee Cain of Independence, Kansas, who wantonly swung out against that S.H.I.E.L.D. classic, "What Ever Happened to Scorpio?" This Mr. Cain is either a fanatical revolutionary, trying to overthrow the new era of brilliance which S.H.I.E.L.D. provides us with, or else he is just lacking taste. Jim Steranko's fantastic artwork and prolific plot caused this issue to glow with the flame of uninhibited victory! The cover was indescribably colossal, the story superb — it was a comic reader's gourmet feast. Hats off to Jim Steranko! As far as Fury being over-equipped weapon-wise, I once again disagree. You can't have Fury fighting super-human adversaries with a slingshot. (The days of David and Goliath are long gone). And as for the illustrations being too detailed, I think they are great (S.H.I.E.L.D. #5, page 17, was fantasmagorical) and a credit to Marveldom. Maybe they just weren't intended for readers with feeble minds and poor eyesight. In summation, your honor, I wish to make it known that I am a K O F (Keeper of the Flame) and I'm striving to be an FFF (Fearless Front Facer). I would like to make a few suggestions, though, to my favorite mag. 1. More psychedelic covers and full page layouts by Jim Steranko. Let him write more of the plots, too, for in him you have a new, untapped source of literary genius. S.H.I.E.L.D. is the best comic to hit the world since Billy Batson mumbled his magic words and SHAZAMMED! into Captain Marvel. Keep up the magnificent work. And so, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I say to you, "Don't yield, back S.H.I.E.L.D."

Paul Mock, 61-12 134 Street
Flushing, New York 11367

Dear Stan and Jim,

This is to comment on the letters column in S.H.I.E.L.D. #6; especially Wayne Kaiser's and Fred Lee Cain's letters. Mr. Kaiser's letter irked me no end! If he doesn't like this type of story and art (Steranko's, that is) he just shouldn't read S.H.I.E.L.D.! To say that his "Hell Hound . . . " story was rotten and ridiculously illustrated shows that he obviously doesn't care for Marvel's forte: innovation. I suppose his favorite type story is one in which the crooks (common thugs, of course) are robbing a store and the hero discovers them and beats them up and that's the end! If all he wants is action and "somewhat believable" situations, why doesn't he read S.H.I.E.L.D., whose accent is on weapons and semi-fantastic stories (which I think are great)? Why doesn't he just stick to Capt. America, or, better yet, go over to Brand Echh's more echhy heroes. Now for Mr. Cain's letter. Fred Lee Cain is living in a distorted version of the past. When S.H.I.E.L.D. was introduced, it was nothing but an out-and-out copy of "Man from UNCLE." As the issues progressed, it gradually became better by adding the very details that Mr. Cain dislikes so much. He advocates going back to those good old days. Yeah, let's go back to that stubble-faced, cigar-chomping, vulgar slob who deserved more to be one of S.H.I.E.L.D.'s infantry rather than it's leader! The way he was then he didn't even deserve to associate with the world leaders he was brought in contact with. Now don't get me wrong, this personality was fine during World War II, but in these times and this organization, Steranko's version is far the better of the two. And as for his comments on Coatesso, I say it's refreshing in a Marvel comic to see a hero who doesn't think "Oh, my darling, if could only tell you, but no! It isn't right!" It's so nice to see a nice, healthy relationship like theirs. As you can see, I am very vehement about our Nick Fury, so don't change him. . .please?

Otis Watson Jr., 4405 Wash. Ave.
Charleston, W. Va. 25304



Dear Stan and Jim,

Great! Phantasmagorical! NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. #5 was fantastic in spite of a couple of minor points. The artwork was up to its usual technical peak. Pickman's lockpicks were uncannily clever, but not for the Yale pin-tumbler and cylinder type lock pictured on page 10, panel 1. Those picks are actually for the old bolt type lock, which is now obsolete and would definitely not be incorporated in S.H.I.E.L.D.'s security system. The second pick pick-tured (in the 3rd inset) would go to a Master spring-type padlock.

Joe Trask, Cat-burglar, Lockpicker, 32 Harlan Sch. Road
Somerville, New Jersey 08876

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (REAL FRANTIC ONE)—A BUYER OF AT LEAST 3 MARVEL MAGS A MONTH.

T.T.B. (TITANIC TRUE BELIEVER)—A DIVINELY-INSPIRED 'NO-PRIZE' WINNER

Q.N.S. (QUITE 'NUFF SAYER)—A FORTUNATE FRANTIC ONE WHO'S HAD A LETTER PRINTED

K.O.F. (KEEPER OF THE FLAME)—ONE WHO RECRUITS A NEWCOMER TO MARVEL'S ROLLICKIN' RANKS.

P.M.M. (PERMANENT MARVELITE MAXIMUS)—ANYONE POSSESSING ALL FOUR OF THE OTHER TITLES.

F.F.F. (FEARLESS FRONT FACER)—AN HONORARY TITLE BESTOWED FOR DEVOTION TO MARVEL ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY.

Dear Stan and Jim,

Though I prefer your comments, this is in response to your request for reader response to letters. In ish #6 Fred Lee Cain complains at length. I'd like to comment point by point. (1) " . . . all Marveldom cheered" the old Fury. Well, I and the numerous fans I know bought STRANGE TALES for Dr. Strange. When Kirby and Severin drew SHIELD, we looked. But (sorry, Stan) Fury was the most obnoxious loudmouth imaginable, symbolizing much of the distasteful in the old guard. Ergo: two factions, not "all". (2) " . . . over-equipped, science spoutin' . . . " In the first two issues with Fury (135, 136) that whole aspect was established, including a prototype of Gaff, the "third rate agent Q". If anything, Jim has lessened this angle and given balance with Val's intro, whose "actual contributions to the plot are usually few" in Mr. Cain's view. (3) " . . . SHIELD uniform fighting togs with trusty tommy gun . . . " In truth, Fury wore a suit in all but 3 pre-Steranko issues (142, 143, 146) when he wore a space suit and a wetsuit. Tommy gun? In five issues (139-142, 146) he used a streamlined automatic weapon, though not a Thompson sub-machine gun; four out of 16 issues. As to Jim's guns, Fury used an air gun (147), a rocket blaster (149), a sound gun (150), and a grenade gun (144) prior to Jim. The ratio of "space-guns" to tommy guns used by other characters is about equal, with only Hydra favoring the latter. (4) As well as the complaints about Gaff and Val, he dislikes Quartermain. Okay, except that, as I remember, Clay hasn't been around since #163, which means a seven month absence of Mr. Cain's complaint. Dugan has been prominent, and he mentions nothing of Jimmy Woo who I'd like to see more of. I also feel Sitwell served his purpose and now works well in IRON MAN. As to Gabe's absence, I agree; but, as with Woo, I'm willing to let Jim work out his own world. (5) As to the sub-plot in #1, irony and Eisner would be wasted on Mr. Cain, I fear. But the highpoint was an "explosion"? Yeah, well . . . (6) "I speak for many Marvel fans" in finding Jim's visual effects "a little nauseating." Some, perhaps, but his sense of visuals has created interest in a number of my fellow film majors at the University of Texas, few of whom showed any prior interest in the graphic novel. Wayne Kaiser, an ally of Mr. Cain in #6 makes a valid point. #3's script was poor. The Nazi and Loch Ness Monster elements made for a contrived windup and, visually, it was confusing as to who the villain was. The centerfold is great, but when crowded Jim might use it for more than one panel rather than formulizing himself. Don Adkins, while unsuited to Buscema's style (SUB-MARINER #7), is the perfect inker for Steranko. What bothers me most about Messrs. Cain and Kaiser is their choice of adjectives ("stop, ridiculous, and rotten") which show little respect for the amount of work any artist puts in on twenty pages, and a refusal of constructive criticism, i.e. the only valid kind. On the other hand, Joseph Kurnava brings up Jim's humor. Another example: #165 when a Magnetic Pelfrag Shooter (slingshot) is used against the Yellow Claw. What's with Frank Springer in #'s 4 and 6? Jim's layout style, but Fury has a pug nose and a part in his hair. Since getting his own mag, we've gotten an average of 13.3 pages a month instead of 12. Wopee! At least tell us what's taking up Jim's time. Please? The covers for 3, 4, and 6 are knockouts.

Patrick Cosgrove, 411½ East 30th
Austin, Texas 78705

Dear Stan and Jim,

Don Plosker is right in asking for some organization work in S.H.I.E.L.D. At first that's what you had; it had to be so since you regarded Fury as the leader of an organization. You had to use it. But now you consider Fury more as an agent or a superhero, you use S.H.I.E.L.D. as a reason for his battles, you bring secondary characters only to make a story complete, you discard them except for time to time glimpses and big battles, and, except for Val, you don't need them. You don't show the workings of the organization, only the gadgets it produces. You try to use new ideas. Well, how many comics have an *organization* for provincial "characters." You have introduced since the beginning at least 8 secondary characters (Dum-Dum, Gabe, Val, Quartermain, Jimmy Woo, Gaffer, Laura Brown, Jasper Sitwell), 6 of them entirely new. You have enough potential there to produce masterpieces. You could have a book where you'd depict the world of espionage so popular these days; add to that the Marvel Touch and you have another book to be proud of, another feather to your cap, and you're letting it go away. That isn't like you at all. I do hope you will open your eyes soon.

Maurice Trudeau, 11612 Hotel de Ville
Mont-Nord, Quebec, Canada

Dear Stan and Jim,

Your magazine, NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD is great, but it could be better. My main complaint is about your characters. I didn't mind when you took Clay Quartermain out of your mag, but you let a good thing go to your head. Dum-Dum, Gabe, and Sitwell are good characters. Why did you take them out? Now it seems as though Nick is working alone. The Contessa Valentina de Fontaine? You hardly have her in anything now. It seems that the only time she is in the story is just at Fury's pad kissin' him. When she is in the mag, if ever, she should be more business and less play except when it may help the story. But one thing that really made me mad, was when you slowly pushed Jimmy Woo out of the picture. You need a little Oriental flavor. Leave him in. I have only one more complaint. Lately your mag has been centered only in the United States. Why doesn't Fury and his old team including some of the newcomers go to other countries such as Japan, China, India, or anyplace with a little culture and intrigue? America isn't the only place with crime. Well, those are my gripes from A to Z. Please try to improve. Mike Jones, 2139 W. 31st St.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90018

Dear Jim, Roy, Archie, Frank, and Artie,

On picking up S.H.I.E.L.D. #6 I was delighted to see the Steranko cover. The story had a few weak points, though, but it was a well-hashed plot and was pulled together fairly well. Although Archie Goodwin did not preserve the Steranko atmosphere so important to S.H.I.E.L.D. at the moment, he did draw a better conclusion to his story than Steranko as a rule does. Frank Springer's art has improved since issue 4. His figures and faces are seldom out of proportion, although his use of shading is overdone. If he did not ink his own pencils the art would improve enormously. I do not particularly care for the coloring effects used on pages 4 and 5. Solid color panels are an interesting effect, but they succeed only in hurting my eyes. Full color panels are not only more eye striking, but also more stimulating. The coloring in this issue was not up to par. If the type of coloring which persisted in this issue had been used in other S.H.I.E.L.D.s, for instance #5, and STRANGE TALES 163-168, where Steranko started drawing his dazzling full page, two page, and four page panels, their value would have depreciated immensely.

Kurt Festinger, 678 Arastradero Road
Palo Alto, Calif. 94306

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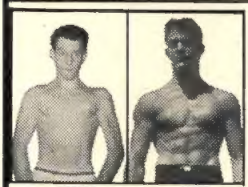

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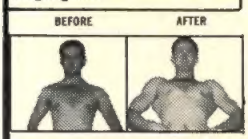

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